

1 District Judge James L. Robart  
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

SEA SHEPHERD LEGAL,

Plaintiff,

v.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND  
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, *et  
al.*,

Defendants.

Case No. C20-1412 JLR

JOINT STATUS REPORT AND  
~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER

Noted for Consideration:  
March 23, 2021

Plaintiff SEA SHEPHERD LEGAL (“Plaintiff”) filed the above-captioned lawsuit under the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) against Defendants NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION and NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICES (collectively, “Defendants”), seeking disclosure of certain documents. *Sea Shepherd Legal v. NOAA, et al.*, 19-cv-463-JLR is a related case before the Court. By order dated January 26, 2021, the Court granted the parties’ stipulated request to submit a joint status report within 60 days. *See* Dkt. No. 19. Pursuant to the Court’s order, the parties now submit this joint status report.

1       The parties continue to attempt to resolve this litigation without further judicial  
2 intervention. Defendants made the first production of responsive records to Sea  
3 Shepherd Legal on January 29, 2021. Defendants have approximately 2,800 potentially  
4 responsive records to process. They intend to make the next production by April 15,  
5 2021 and complete the productions within six months. The parties agree that this may  
6 resolve the substantive portion of this case, except for attorneys' fees. Accordingly, the  
7 parties respectfully request that they be permitted to file a joint status report within the  
8 next 60 days. If at any time in the next 60 days it becomes apparent that resolution  
9 between the parties is not feasible, they will submit a joint briefing schedule to the Court.

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11 Dated this 23nd day of March 2021.

12                    *s/     Brett W. Sommermeyer*  
13                    BRETT W. SOMMERMEYER, WSBA # 30003

14                    *s/     Catherine E. Pruett*  
15                    CATHERINE E. PRUETT, WA BAR # 35140

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22                    *Attorneys for Plaintiff*

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29                    *Attorneys for Defendants*

## ORDER

Having reviewed the parties' stipulated motion, the Court finds good cause shown for the parties to continue working towards a resolution of this matter. The parties shall submit a joint status report to the Court on or before May 21, 2021.

Dated this 24th day of March 2021.

  
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**JAMES L. ROBART**  
United States District Judge